Nationalisation of Jute Mills in West Bengal

175. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Centre of Indian Trade Unions has again reiterated their demand for the nationalisation of jute mills in West Bengal;

(b) if so, on what grounds; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) From time to time the CITU and some other Trade Unions of Jute Industry are making the suggestion for nationalisation of jute industry. In their view such measure would help the jute farmers and the industrial workers. However, Government do not agree with this approach as this would not provide any permanent solution to the problems of the industry. Government have therefore taken a number of measures for the revival/modernisation/ diversification of jute sector covering raw jute agriculture and the industry.

Meeting of the National Water Development Agency Society

176. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the eighth General Meeting of the National Water Development Agency Society was held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, what decisions were taken there at; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The principle decisions taken in the meeting were—

(i) A meeting between Kerala and Tamil Nadu will be convened by the Centre for reviewing the water balance studies for Pamba-Achankovil-Vaigai Link and to decide upon the further studies.

(ii) Studies of Himalayan Rivers Development component of the National Perspectives will be taken up immediately by the N.W.D.A.

(iii) The National Water Development Agency will be continued on a long term basis beyond VIII Plan.

(iv) Setting up of River Boards for strengthening the work of basin planning will be expedited.

(c) Work plans of the N.W.D.A. are being reviewed in the light of these decisions.

Recommendation of the Indo-US Joint Business Council for the protection of intellectual property rights

177. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US Joint Business Council has recently recommended a three point plan for the protection of intellectual property rights;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction

thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the Joint recommendations made at the 13th meeting of Indo-US Joint Business Council held in Washington on 5-6 April, 1990 were that intellectual property rights should be strengthened as regards:—

(i) minimum standards of protection;
(ii) good enforcement mechanism; and
(iii) adequate dispute settlement procedures.

(c) Our laws contain adequate standards of protection as well as enforcement mechanisms. We are participating in discussions/negotiations on dispute settlement mechanisms in multilateral fora.

178. [*Transferred to the 14th May, 1990*].

Proposal to make changes in FERA for boosting foreign investment

179. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring about changes in FERA provisions to give a boost to foreign investment in export oriented sectors; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) There is no such decision at present.

(b) Question does not arise.

Looting of Banks in Vikaspuri and Delhi Cantonment areas

180. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a bank was looted in Vikaspuri, Delhi and another attempt of looting was made in a Bank in Delhi Cantonment area recently;

(b) if so, what are the details of the incidents and the properties lost;

(c) whether the culprits were apprehended; and

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure the security of banks and their personnel in the Capital?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) As per available information, on 6th April, 1990 Keshopur (Delhi - Vikaspuri) branch of State Bank of India was robbed to the extent of Rs. 2,05,919/- by two armed robbers.

On the same day, an attempt was made to rob the Extension Counter of Syndicate Bank at Air Force Station, Palam by 3 armed robbers. However, the attempt was foiled by the Bank Guard, who was injured in the process. Two of the robbers were caught by the staff of the bank and Air Force personnel and were handed over to the Police alongwith their weapons.

(d) Banks have classified their branches according to the degree of risk and posted armed guards, installed anti-burglary/robbery devices etc. wherever necessary.

Nationalisation of Jute Industry

181. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to nationalise some jute mills or the entire jute industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The Government has no plan to nationalise any jute mill or the entire jute industry. The Government feels that nationalisation of jute industry is not a permanent